

27 February 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

In December 2017, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland visited Tynecastle High School. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and young people and worked closely with the headteacher and staff.

The inspection team found the following strengths in the school's work.

- Aply led by the headteacher, staff's shared drive and commitment to working together to lead school improvement which includes a strong voice for young people.
- Positive relationships between staff and young people and across the school community. This has built a strong sense of community and supports young people's progress.
- The effective use of digital technology which is supporting young people to learn flexibly in and beyond the classroom in a range of different and motivating ways.
- The positive impact of the school's work in overcoming barriers facing young people to improve participation, engagement and achievement and support equity. This is leading to improved attainment in some key measures.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and a representative from The City of Edinburgh Council.

- Continue to ensure planning for improvement leads to measurable impact on the school's work.
- Continue to improve approaches to the assessment, moderation and planning of learning to meet the needs of all young people more effectively.
- Further improve the quality and consistency of planning for groups and individual learners with identified additional support needs.
- Continue to raise attainment by developing learning pathways through S1 to S6 to ensure a more dynamic and flexible curriculum which meets the aspirations of all young people.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate some quality indicators from [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#). Quality indicators help schools, education authorities and inspectors to judge what is working well and what needs to be improved. Following the inspection of each school, the Scottish Government gathers evaluations of quality indicators to keep track of how well Scottish schools are doing.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for Tynecastle High School

Quality indicators	Evaluation
Leadership of change	good
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Raising attainment and achievement	satisfactory
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	good

Descriptions of the evaluations are available from [How good is our school? \(4th edition\)](#), [Appendix 3: The six-point scale](#).

A more detailed document called summarised inspection findings will be available on the Education Scotland website at <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/edinburgh-city/5534631>

What happens next?

We are confident that the school has the capacity to continue to improve and so we will make no more visits in connection with this inspection. The City of Edinburgh Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Donald A Macleod
HM Inspector